



THE MAINE CEO

A PERIODIC NEWSLETTER FOR
CODE ENFORCEMENT TRAINING & CERTIFICATION
PROGRAM INFORMATION

Vol. 5 Issue 2 - Published and Distributed by the Maine State Planning Office - Summer 2005

THE 122ND LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Listed below are bills enacted by the 122nd Legislature that will affect you as a Code Official.

- LD 472 – An Act To Amend the Statewide Building Code. This bill requires towns that adopt the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC) also adopt the International Existing Building Code (IEBC).

Summary: The original bill was **amended**. This amendment requires towns, cities or municipalities that adopt a building rehabilitation code to adopt the IEBC. It does not mandate adoption of the IEBC upon adoption of the IBC or the IRC.

It also provides that the State Planning Office is authorized to obtain public and private funds to conduct a project that would harmonize the codes and standards currently in law with the Maine Model Building Code and the IEBC within 3 years. The State Planning Office is required to report back on the status of the project to the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development by February 1, 2006.

- LD 1056 –Directs the Plumbers' Examining Board to Adopt the Uniform Plumbing Code

Summary – This resolve requires the Plumbers' Examining Board to adopt the Uniform Plumbing Code as the new plumbing code for the State.

Note: The effective date of the new code is September 17, 2005. In order to transition to the new code, any plumbing projects in process prior to January 1, 2006 can be completed under the current State of Maine Internal Plumbing Code. After January 1, 2006, the plumbing code requirements of the Maine State Internal Plumbing Code, which is based on the 2000 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code, must be followed

- LD 1306 - An Act To License Home Building and Improvement Contractors

Summary: Sec. 1. Registry for home building and improvement contractors. The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation is authorized to work in consultation with the Attorney General, home building and improvement industry representatives and appropriate stakeholders to develop a model registration process for home building and improvement contractors that includes

the development of a model contract, suggestions for the threshold requirements for registration, a process for receiving complaints and disclosing them to consumers and fee recommendations.

Sec. 2. Reporting date established. The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation shall report its findings concerning the registration process in section 1, including any proposed legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development by February 1, 2006.

This bill creates the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Act. The bill contains the following provisions: requirements for licensure of general contractors and people who perform framing, roofing, siding, insulating, window work or chimney work, if the work concerns residential dwellings; certain specific exemptions from licensure; requirements for criminal and financial disclosures; creation and authority of the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Board; fees for licensing; adoption of a model building code and a mechanism for phasing in a registration program, followed by a licensing program, upon adoption of the model building code by 56 of a list of 83 specified municipalities.

- LD 1591 This LD puts into effect the International Energy Code. This was an emergency bill that took effect upon the Governor's signing. This code is voluntary at the residential level and mandatory at the commercial level.

You may check the status of a bill by logging onto:
<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/siteguide/>

TRAINING

The State Planning Office will sponsor a Multi Issue workshop on November 1st and 2nd at the Sheraton Inn in South Portland. Please see attached announcement.

Training on the new Maine Plumbing Code, the Uniform Plumbing Code will be held in the next few months. You will be notified.

Training on the New Energy Code, the International Energy Code will be held in the next few months. You will be notified.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAM STAFFING

Shelley Nadeau will not be returning to work and will be staying home with her new baby. We all wish her well.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer season and stay
safe!